



Attorney's Docket No.: 05770-038002 / AMSC-152 Div.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Gregory L. Snitchler et al. Art Unit : 3729
Serial No. : 09/769,705 Examiner : Unknown
Filed : January 25, 2001
Title : CABLED CONDUCTORS CONTAINING ANISOTROPIC SUPERCONDUCTING COMPOUNDS AND METHOD FOR MAKING THEM

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Copies of the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449 are enclosed. A copy of a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application is also enclosed.

This statement is being filed after a first Office action on the merits, but before receipt of a final Office action or a Notice of Allowance. I, the undersigned, hereby certify that each item of information contained in this statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, the communication being dated March 10, 2003,

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Div.

which is not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. Please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: MARCH 31, 2003

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Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 05770-038002	Application No. 09/769,705
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR §1.98(b))		Applicant Gregory L. Snitchler et al.	
		Filing Date January 25, 2001	Group Art Unit 3729

U.S. Patent Documents

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	AA	4,329,539	05/11/82	Tanaka et al.			
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

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Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation Yes No
	AL	EP 0 503 525	03/09/92	Europe			
	AM	EP 0 638 942	08/02/94	Europe			
	AN						
	AO						
	AP						

Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
	AQ	
	AR	
	AS	
	AT	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	



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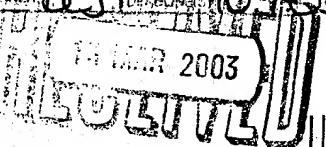
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Application No. 96 941 963.9-2208	Ref. DCJ/42385/AMSUP	Date 10.03.2003
Applicant AMERICAN SUPERCONDUCTOR CORPORATION		

Communication pursuant to Article 96(2) EPC

The examination of the above-identified application has revealed that it does not meet the requirements of the European Patent Convention for the reasons enclosed herewith. If the deficiencies indicated are not rectified the application may be refused pursuant to Article 97(1) EPC.

You are invited to file your observations and insofar as the deficiencies are such as to be rectifiable, to correct the indicated deficiencies within a period

of 4 months

from the notification of this communication, this period being computed in accordance with Rules 78(2) and 83(2) and (4) EPC.

One set of amendments to the description, claims and drawings is to be filed within the said period on separate sheets (Rule 36(1) EPC).

Failure to comply with this invitation in due time will result in the application being deemed to be withdrawn (Article 96(3) EPC).



COPY

MEUL H W
Primary Examiner
for the Examining Division

Enclosure(s): 3 page/s reasons (Form 2906)

Registered Letter

EPO Form 2001 07.02CSX



Bescheid/Protokoll (Anlage)		Communication/Minutes (Annex)		Notification/Procès-verbal (Annexe)	
Datum Date Date	10.03.2003	Blatt Sheet Feuille	1	Anmelde-Nr.: Application No.: 96 941 963.9 Demande n°:	

The examination is being carried out on the **following application documents:**

Description, pages: 1-30 as originally filed
Claims, No.: 1-30 as originally filed
Drawings, sheets: 1-4 as originally filed

1. Reference is made to the following documents:

- D1: EP 0 503 525 A
- D2: US 4,329,539 A
- D3: EP 0 638 942 A

2. The present version of claims does not meet the requirements of Article 84 EPC and is therefore not allowable. The reasons are the following:

- 2.1** In claim 1, the term "substantially unidirectional" is vague and indefinite. Conventionally textured filaments with the grains aligned in the longitudinal filament direction and with a sufficiently large twist or transposition pitch may be considered as "substantially unidirectionally aligned". The grain alignment direction should be defined relative to the longitudinal axis of the cable conductor which seems to be the only well-defined direction in a transposed cable conductor. Furthermore, it is not clear by which angle a "substantially" aligned grain may deviate from perfect alignment.
- 2.2** A lack of clarity arises in claims 1, 2, 15 and 28 because the term "transposed strands" commonly has a technical meaning which differs from the broad definition given on page 1, lines 24-29 of the present description. Transposed strands have a conductor structure being different from twisted strands.
- 2.3** The terms "filament transposition area" and "grain direction area" used in claims 8, 9, 20, 21 and 28 have no well-recognised technical meaning and leave the reader in doubt as to their interpretation, thereby rendering the definition of the



Bescheid/Protokoll (Anlage)		Communication/Minutes (Annex)		Notification/Procès-verbal (Annexe)	
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identify the amendments carried out, irrespective of whether they concern amendments by addition, replacement or deletion, and to indicate the passages of the application as filed on which these amendments are based.

Independent claims should be drafted in the two-part form in accordance with Rule 29 (1) EPC. All claims should comprise reference signs (Rule 29 (7) EPC). The description should be amended according to new claims.

To meet the requirements of Rule 27 (1) (b) EPC, the closest prior art document should be identified in the description and the relevant background art disclosed therein should be briefly discussed.

The unit 'inch' expressed on pages 26, 27 and 28 does not meet the requirements of Rule 35 (12) EPC and should be replaced by the appropriate SI unit (cf. the Guidelines, C-II, Annex 1). The present expressions should, however, be retained in parentheses after the replacement expressions.

"Incorporation by reference" is not possible in the EPC. The corresponding statement on page 21, line 12 should thus be deleted.

The last paragraph of the description on pages 28-29 should be deleted as it adds nothing to the disclosure and could, in fact, render the extend of the invention uncertain (Articles 84 and 69 (1) EPC and Guidelines C-III, 4.3a).